WE WANT OUR PEOPLE TO THINK FOR THEMSELVES — GARVEY

ABENG

Vol. 1, No. 15 May 10th., 1969

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THE FACTS SHEARER GOT!

On Saturday last approximately one dozen members of the Sixth Form Association accepted an invitation of the Prime Minister to meet him at Jamaica House to discuss with him the matters of the nation. We were asked to submit the questions which we intended to ask beforehand. Even then, however, we had no idea that the purpose of this meeting was a mere publicity stunt.

I, as one of the representatives of the S.F.A., along with others like myself, was disappointed when, on arriving home from the meeting, we heard reported on a radio station that members of the Sixth Form Association spent some four hours at Jamaica House discussing with the Prime Minister "bulk-loading of bananas at Rocky Point, mechanisation of the sugar industry, and the marketing of bananas, sugar and citrus, including O.A.T. status in the European Common Market".

True, these matters were discussed, but there were other matters of more importance which were discussed or proposed.

On the subject of Education, it was proposed unanimously that (1) a much larger percentage than at present of the Jamaican budget should be spent on education; (2) the Government should concentrate most of its efforts at present on early-childhood and primary education; (3) African history should be taught in the sixth, and probably fifth forms of our secondary schools.

Members of the delegation were dissatisfied with the response of the Prime Minister and the Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Education to this last proposal, the latter merely stating that they would note this as a proposal and giving the appearance of being unwilling to discuss this matter any at all.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Defense refused to be any more liberal than at present in his dealing with the security of the country, claiming to have more experience in matters of this sort than sixth-formers. It was pointed out here that it was very likely that the Minister of Home Affairs and the Prime Minister could abuse their authority by acting arbitrarily to deport, for instance, an enemy of their political party under the guise of security. In reply to the question why the Prime Minister would refuse to divulge any information at all or give the accused an opportunity to defend himself in a court of Law, the Prime Minister asked why Melville's (Justice) word should be accepted above his own.

The Sixth-formers charged that there was at present a wave of police brutality sweeping this country and specific examples were given some students even claiming to be witnesses to this. It was, however, strongly denied by the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister claimed that he was not necessarily opposed to the revolution in thought and economies advocated by "certain progressive youth, mainly from the University," as an S.F.A. member termed them, but he was opposed to the methods which some of them proposed in bringing about this revolution. He denied that they were driven to these tactics by the opposition of the Government and police, claiming that these youths were opposed to the authorities in the first place.

On a more personal issue, the Prime

(Continued on P. 4)

TEACHER FIRED FOR SUPPPORTING ABENG

Jacob Degia, Barbados born, 27 years old, came to Jamaica in August 1968 and obtained employment at St. Elizabeth Technical High School as a teacher. Before coming to Jamaica, he had spent 8½ years in England 4 of which were in service with the RAF as a cryptographic mechanic with the status of a Senior Aircraftman. He also studied and obtained qualifications in Mechanical Engineering and the teaching of Drawing & Engineering Science.

Degia was therefore very qualified to pass on his technical knowledge to the students he taught. He represented St. Elizabeth Technical School at the Exhibition at the National Arena during Technical Education Week last year and he was used by the J.I.S. to make a film.

On Monday 5th May 1969 Degia was summoned by the Headmaster and asked if he was a supporter of Abeng. He admitted that he was and was told by the Headmaster to go home and await further instructions. On Tuesday 6th he returned to the school to ask the Headmaster if he was being suspended. He was told that he would be dismissed as soon as the Chairman of the School Board had signed the letter of dismissal, BUT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS THE PRINCIPAL HAD REFUSED TO GIVE HIM AN OFFICIAL LETTER OF DISMISSAL ON THE GROUNDS THAT HE WAS TEMPORARILY EMPLOYED.

Degia was placed on one year's probation when he was employed despite the fact that he is so well qualified. Because of this he has no right to a trial, nor indeed will any reason be given for his dismissal. We can only assume that the Board has taken action because of the article about the activities of Peace Corps teachers in Jamaica which appeared in the Abeng last week. AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS ONE STUDENT AT ST.ELIZABETH TECH. HAS BEEN SUSPENDED FOR USING THE WORD 'SPY'. The Chairman of the St. Elizabeth Tech. School is Don Tretzel, an American citizen and the head of Kaiser Bauxite Co. and Alpart Consortium in Jamaica.

Another possible motive is that the Board wishes to punish Degia for his support of the students in a recent incident at the school. A teacher had ordered a girl to slap a boy in his face before the class. The students had demanded an apology from the teacher and that the School Board take disciplinary steps. Degia's support of the students' demands caused great embarrassment to the authorities.

SO FAR NEITHER STUDENTS NOR STAFF HAVE BEEN INFORMED OF THE DISMISSAL.

Jamaica should hardly be surprised that education is in such a mess, for our schools, like so many things in our society, are built on a foundation of intolerance and bullyism. They are not designed to accommodate people of character and independence.

In the long run the sufferers are going to be his Jamaican wife and their two children, and the scores of his students at St. Elizabeth Technical, some of whom are preparing for Examinations.

R.J.R. Abandons Listeners to Satisfy Govt.

The news has finally leaked out that Radio Jamaica and Rediffusion surrendered the people's interests before the demands of this power-mad Government in negotiations over the renewal of the station's broadcasting license.

Normally the period of the license is good for ten years. ABENG has it from very reliable sources that the Government, meaning Shearer, under whom the Broadcasting Authority now falls has only granted RJR a license for five years! Nor was that the end of the matter, for Shearer has gone further and extracted the most savage concessions in all of Jamaica's broadcasting history.

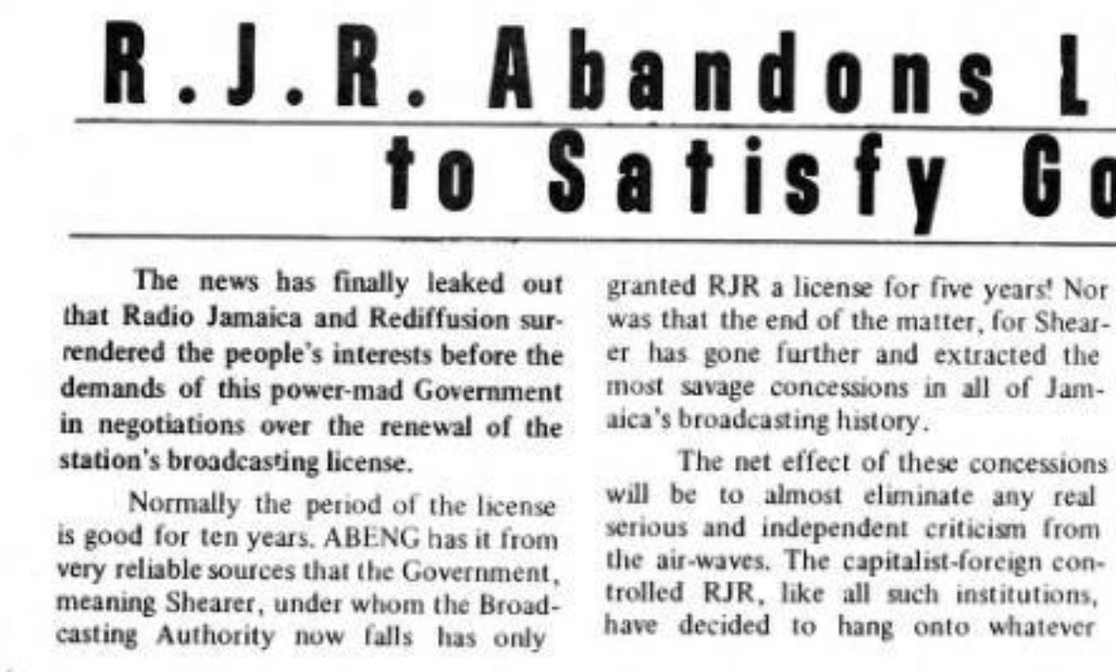
The net effect of these concessions will be to almost eliminate any real serious and independent criticism from the air-waves. The capitalist-foreign controlled RJR, like all such institutions, have decided to hang onto whatever remaining profits are to be gathered up here in Jamaica rather than to face the public honestly and squarely with the truth of the matter. For it is the public first and last that makes any profit for RJR possible. RJR's responsibility should be to the public, not to a Government whose irrelevance to the people of this country is plain for all to see.

Frank Hill's "FRANKLY SPEAKING" will not be heard after June 1st. This was probably RJR's most outstanding public affairs feature and combined the highest literary standards with an incisive approach to matters affecting the state of the country.

"NEWS ANALYSIS" a regular weekday feature, has also been scrapped. It brought together the widest cross-section of intellectual talents to bear on the most significant news stories of the day. The programme was abruptly withdrawn the day after Wilmot "Mutty" Perkins gave his analysis of the Governor General's Speech from the Throne. For permitting this script to be recorded and broadcast, RJR's News Editor was severely censured to the point of almost causing his resignation. It is also interesting that as a result of this "misfortune" all scripts for broadcast have to be vetted by Sir Alfred Rennie, one of the Directors and not as hitherto by the Solicitors of RJR.

In all of this mad capitulation, it is understood that the "GROUSE" too was slated for the chop, but that it was eventually saved by the decision to fire Wilmot Perkins as host and to replace him with someone else. And no doubt more censorship of the people's views as well.

(Continued on P. 4)



ANANCY AND DE TWO DAWG

By Uncle Paul

Once upon a time, Backra Massa did have a Savanna full a goat. Him use to milk these goats every morning and kill them anytime him feel to eat meat or get leather.

Well, Black Dog Cousin an Brown Dog Puppa did live in the Savanna to, an see how Backra Massa treat the goat them bad. The dog them start raise hell an show the goats how Backra Massa advantage them because them fool-fool. And them tell the goats that the two a them going fight for them an tek wey the Savanna an give it to them.

Wen Backra Massa hear bout that him swear that him going mek Black Dog Cousin an Brown Dog Puppa dead in prison. An him ketch Brown Dog Puppa, because Brown Dog Puppa was too cunny. Everytime Backra Massa put Black Dog Cousin in jail, Brown Dog Puppa let him out. Between the two a them give Backra Massa so much trouble, that him decide to sit down an check up how much it costing him to keep the goats, an him find out it costing him too much. So him sen for Black Dog Cousin an Brown Dog Puppa an turn over the whole Savanna to them.

Hell pop loose! Both Black Dog Cousin an Brown Dog Puppa want to rule the Savanna. Black Dog Cousin through him have the biggest mout start tell the goat them how is him "liberate" them and Brown Dog Puppa start tell them how him should lead them as him have the most brains.

But the goats not so fool. Them make both Black Dog Cousin an Brown Dog Puppa look after the business. The goats live happy as long as both dogs could manage the business, but when the dogs get too old to carry on an start look for somebody to tek them place, trouble start.

Anancy was the cause of all the trouble, for him want to get the business. First him go to Brown Dog Puppa an offer to help to fight Black Dog Cousin for him. Him tell Brown Dog Puppa say Black Dog Cousin talking all sorta bad things bout him, an saying is him one did go prison for the goats. But Brown Dog Puppa run him an tell him not to tell lie pon him cousin.

Anancy run go to Black Dog Cousin an tell him almost the same story bout Brown Dog Puppa. Now, though Black Dog Cousin never believe him, him decide to use Anancy. So him pretend to believe him an sign paper that say Anancy can look after little piece of the goat business an keep an eye pon Brown Dog Puppa.

Anancy feel that all him had was to do, was prove to Black Dog Cousin that Brown Dog Puppa after him, an the ole dog would sign the paper an make him take over all the business. But the ole dog pick one of him friends to take over the business. When Anancy hear bout it him kill the man. And him do the same thing to everyone that Black Dog Cousin choose to take charge.

After this happen a few time, Black Dog Cousin decide to send for Black Dog an give him the work. Poor Anancy couldn do nutten but cuss an go on bad for if him touch Black Dog, Black Dog Cousin would know is him was killing all the other men.

But Anancy soon find out that him in a better position than if him was fully in charge for Black Dog do nutten but sport and leave everything up to him.

Anancy set goat against goat. Him teach goat to fight an say is not them start it first. Him teach them how to shoot while him go on like is reading, dancing, sing an other such thing him teaching. So Brown Dog Puppa, sen fe him son Brown Dog an tell him to go to Black Dog fireside an learn all the tings that going on. Meanwhile Anancy sure that Brown Dog don't know a thing. So when him spring a attack on Brown Dog, him get a big surprise.

But Anancy is a man who turn everything to him advantage. When him see what happen him run to Black Dog an tell him that is Brown Dog who did set up the goats an teach them to shoot an when him was trying to find out what happening, Brown Dog ketch him men an kill them off, an now Brown Dog spreading word so is him start it.

When Brown Dog come to talk over things with Black Dog, Anancy wouldn't allow the two dogs to talk. As fast as poor Brown Dog say one thing, Black Dog bark at him, an all you could hear was barking from both sides. And from that day till today, dog don't lissen one another, but everyone a bark at the same time. Is Anancy put them so. If you think is lie, try sleep a town night-time.

Jack Mandora, mi noh choose none.

PLAIN TALK

This Is Happening To Us!

What is happening to the minds of my poor oppressed brothers and sisters in Jamaica? When are we going to effect the necessary changes in our country? At present the destiny of Jamaica still lies in the hands of the privileged few (various minority groups) who retain this position unjustly through the power of economic, social and political exploitation of the masses. Present conditions existing in our society show clearly how deep and effective this system of exploitation has become.

SQUATTERS ON THE LAND

Take a look at some examples of economic exploitation in Jamaica. As much as seventy per cent of our population do not even own a single inch of our beautiful soil. Therefore such a situation reduces most of us to squatters in our own country. If this natural form of economic necessity is denied to us, then on what basis are we claiming full Jamaica citizenship? In a country so small as ours, land should be owned by the people, thus ensuring a greater rate of widespread development. Our young people are some of the most depressed and harassed youths in the world today. The idea of emigration is an obsession to many young Jamaicans; they will leave their country to live anywhere in search of a secure future. How classical a joke to see many acres of Farm Land in St. Elizabeth go to waste because of incessant drought. What has been done to utilize the resources of our largest river – Black River – which conveniently happens to be situated in the very same parish?

POLITICS

Politics is a beastly game in Jamaica. It is a game in which whoever loses suffers for their loss through victimization. Regardless of which party is in power, the ordinary working man's living conditions still deteriorate. Our people have been misled into believing that politics must generate fear, hatred and victimization. Division is easily visible among our mass of sufferers and illiterates. We are merely pawns in this game of desperation which continues to leave the politicians secure and the public largely ignorant of where they stand. How ironical it is to acclaim political freedom based upon democracy, yet we have to live in fear of the party that we do not support? Our politicians are certainly skilful technocrats. The present government has long ago decided to play puppet to local and foreign capitalistic investments. Since then our sufferings have increased. Our conditions would have been worse, if our political stooges were not so inefficient in carrying out the orders of their colonial bosses. WE have been sold into slavery again. Shout it out ABENG. Oppression MUST STOP. Some say we cannot change the system, others cautiously point out that we cannot take such a 'risk'. Those of us who have nothing to lose except our suffering will have to unite for a better way of life. Listen 'little man', it is you who have created the 'big man'. It is your responsibility to discard your smallness and your duty to think for yourself.

"THE SENTINEL"

THE ASSEMBLY OF THE LIVING

AN EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS

by

Brother Everald Brown
Brother Arnold Tucker
Brother Clinton Brown

at

The Creative Arts Centre, U.W.I.
APRIL 30 – MAY 16, 1969

SPECIAL NEXT WEEK:

"The Seed of the Plant" Review by Timothy Callender

BANANAS: The Problem Today

PART 2 by George Beckford

The problems of the banana industry today are essentially the same in character, though not in degree, as those that existed in the first three decades of the century. In recent studies which I conducted at the University, I discovered that –

(a) the Jamaican grower tends to absorb most of the loss resulting from adverse changes in U.K. market conditions,

(b) growers do not always benefit sufficiently from improved market conditions,

(c) the growers' share of gross sales of bananas has been declining steadily in recent years and was as low as 22% in 1964,

(d) that access to other markets such as Canada is limited not because we cannot compete price-wise but because United Fruit Company enjoys a monopoly position which it can use to block our entry.

Indeed the figures suggest that we can supply bananas to Eastern Canada at more competitive prices than United Fruit supplies now going to that region.

SHIPPING & MARKETING

The solution to these problems seems, to my mind, to lie clearly in the direction of doing our own shipping and marketing entirely. The most obvious way of achieving this is to expand the Jamaica Banana Producers Association into a National Line capable of handling the entire trade. To entertain this possibility, we need to consider the obstacles which, over the past 40 years, have limited the growth of the company to the full potential here proposed.

ORIGINAL AIM

The Association was originally established because "many growers felt that the time has come when some real internal competition would bring them more security and better prices for their fruit". The intention, therefore, was simply to provide competition, not to take over the trade completely.

The growers did in fact achieve the objective they set themselves but subsequent directors do not appear to have seen the need for setting up of new objectives such as that proposed here. The company itself admits that:

> **"The Jamaica Banana Producers' Association Ltd. is conservatively managed. After years of hardship and uncertainty, this Jamaican company is now stable and reasonably prosperous".**

NEW SIGHTS

One of the basic obstacles to be overcome, therefore, is a change in this conservative view of the management. Forty years later, we need to set ourselves new sights if we are not to betray the vision of our forefathers.

Next, we must recognize that in addition to the will and determination of growers in the 1920's, their initial success owed much to a sympathetic government administration. Stubbs, the then Governor, gave tangible assistance. For example, "the Government guaranteed debentures to the extent of £200,000. With this money the co-operative bought a half share in four old meat-carrying ships which were converted to carrying bananas."

SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES

The world-wide depression that began shortly after the Association was established, a series of hurricanes in 1932, 1933 and 1935, pressure from the established foreign companies, and the ravages of Panama and leaf spot diseases all posed serious difficulties for the survival of the new enterprise. And the company itself admits that "by 1935 it became apparent that unless the Government came to its aid with at least full moral support it must fail".

DIFFICULTIES

The difficulties in the way of action by the company alone are perhaps no less serious today. One difficulty, for example, "is the high cost of new ships. In the 1930's, a ship like the 'Jamaica Producer' cost £180,000. In 1959 the new 'Planter' cost £1,500,000". Although a considerable amount of charter capacity is available from international shipping, the expansion proposed here could not for long depend excessively on charter space since this would expose us to inordinate outside control. The owned fleet of the company could not be quickly expanded without Government assistance in securing loans for the purpose.

CURRENT MARKETING

When we consider that some 75% of current marketing expenses consists of payments for freight and commission to marketing agents, it would seem that investments of this type would pay high returns in terms of national income creation. Positive government action in the direction proposed would, therefore, seem both appropriate and necessary.

Finally, it is alleged that one important factor limiting the kind of expansion proposed here for the company is that a banana shipping and marketing organization cannot rely on a single source of supplies since the risks of 'blow-downs' and hurricanes are too high, and heavy costs are involved when available shipping space cannot be utilized.

THE SOLUTION

The solution to this problem could be to secure access to supplies from other West Indian islands. One way would be to expand the company partly with share capital subscribed by Windward Island growers and partly with capital subscribed by all the West Indian governments to transform the company into a West Indian Banana Producers Association with at least a share of the Windward trade reserved for its expanded operation. This could provide the nucleus for a regional shipping line to handle more and more of our trade with the rest of the world.

MY VISION

That briefly is the vision I want to leave with you concerning the future of the industry. Looking back on what our forefathers did, I am sure you will agree with me that my vision is not much more far reaching than the one they had. They transformed their vision into reality through sheer courage and determination for the difficulties were great.

Finally, let us widen the vision beyond the horizon of the banana industry and apply it to all aspects of the nation's economic life. Then, and only then, we shall be on our way to genuine independence and a dignified existence as a people. That, as I see it, is the basis for "the struggle ahead", and we must be prepared to see it through!

GARVEY JOURNAL

With Mrs. Garvey's permission we reproduce extracts from two personal letters she received from W.A. Domingo (Jamaican nationalist) and George Padmore (Pan-Africanist fighter)

April 20, 1954

Dear Mrs. Garvey,

". . . .Quite a formidable list of publications have been banned from entry into Jamaica. I approve of excluding the books on magic, and other superstitions, but in banning books on politics, also publications of a similar nature, the government simply reveals its fears. Colonial peoples have a double problem. They have to fight their own reactionaries as well as the naturally reactionary government of the controlling power. The situation is worse when the two elements fuse and work against the masses, one openly as the agent of an alien over-lord and the other concealed as the friends of the people of whom they are a part. The question that the people should ask: of what are the rulers afraid? To whom is the banned literature a danger?

W.A. Domingo"

October 3, 1950

"Dear Mrs. Garvey,

. . . .It is typical of West Indian mentality to make a big show of erecting public statues to men, who in their lifetime were ignored. It seems that the money would be better spent in endowing a scholarship or building a school for the benefit of future generations. Such an institution could bear the name of Marcus Garvey. It would hit two birds with the same stone–commemorate his memory and serve a useful purpose in the life of the community. Today, nobody erects stone monuments, they express public appreciation in some useful institutional manner–hospital, school or library.

With sincere respect and admiration for all that you have done for the Race.

George Padmore"

SUFFERER'S DIARY

Woman Of Africa

Black woman, woman of Africa, O my African sister, I am thinking of our sufferings.

We are suffering from hunger and poverty. There is nowhere for us to lay our heads, our houses are being smashed down by the Government. We are oppressed by the white, and not only the white for our black police brutalize us. Our children are being borne on our backs and we are treated like wild animals. When we try to cultivate a backbone the lack of employment broke our backs. They led us to the slaughter like sheep. Our Government brought in something called Birth Control to kill us off. Our children are afraid to walk on the streets without being kicked and punched in the face by police. In Canada:"negress slut go back to where you came from." These atrocities were hurled at our sisters.

It is our task of freeing black humanity and to restore it to a position of dignity. So let us Awake! Arise! Check up and go forward with our Black Movement.

I am asking our Black sisters to keep the struggle high. We may be weak in wealth but we are strong in faith.

From a Suffering Sister.

ABENG 4 Collins Green Avenue, Kingston 5. Jamaica, W.I.

Please enter me for a subscription to ABENG NATIONAL WEEKLY beginning with Vol. 1 No.... I wish to subscribe for [ ] one year (25/-) [ ] two years (45/-) [ ] Special student rate: (20/) for one year.

Name.....
(Please Print)

Street.....

City.....**Country**.....

HELP US TO KEEP BLOWING. THANKS!

ABENG

Vol. I, No. 15 May 10th., 1969

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george beckford
robert hill
trevor munroe
rupert lewis

THIS WHITE BUSINESS

The news that in Santa Cruz a Black Brother has been victimised at the hands of the mercenary racist administration of St. Elizabeth Technical School, confirms once again the vital lesson about slavery and colonialism.

For centuries our people have had toreckon with the fact that certain 'black' men (House Niggers) will go to any lengths to show their white superiors just how efficient they are in punishing the slightest sign of Black Dignity. Moreover, these Niggers develop a savage frenzy when their "darling white" overlords are exposed for what they really are — out and out enemies of Black people.

But if Brother Jacob Degia is a victim of this tradition of ingrained treachery to Black men, his case shall also serve to re-establish the other lesson about slavery and colonialism. Always the first to threaten us, these House Niggers are always the first to feel the punishing wrath of an awakened Race. Quick to deliver blows for their white master, the white master cannot shield them from the iron temper of Black Consciousness.

For the four white servants of a dying inperialism will never again be corps to a "peaceful" Black people of Santa Cruz. One Black Heart is infinitely greater than all the poisonous bayonets of their scheming plans of indoctrination, subversion, and humiliation. Their undoing merely rids the course of Black Emancipation of yet another obstacle.

But these are just four white cyphers in the giant chain of imperialism, aided and abetted by black political mercenaries. The evidence on their other colleagues is still being carefully documented. When it is ready, names, dates, places, activities, contacts – everything will be given to the people. As the exploiters say in their dialect, everything will soon be "busted".

And if our publication is interfered with or hampered in any way, the population will know exactly why!

We are going to finish with this white business. Black people have had enough!

Sixth formers And Shearer

(Continued from P. 1)

Minister was quizzed as to how many cars he owned. He admitted to owning four cars, at least one, the Lincoln Continental, being outside the 110" wheel base. There was one other car at his disposal, provided by the Government. He claimed, however, that he had procured three of these before he became Prime Minister. He admitted to being guilty of "keeping up with the Jones' by stating that if Ken McNeil had a Lincoln Continental then Hugh Shearer could also own a Lincoln.

SANTA CRUZ

ABENG

National Week

ASSEMBLIES OF THE PEOPLE

FRIDAY, MAY 16TH
7:00 P.M.

Guest Speaker: HUGH SMALL

20,000 NOW!

BLOW THE HORN TELL THE PEOPLE

(Letters must be signed. Names withheld on request. Ed.)

MR. ALLEN

I wonder how long does Mr. Allen intend to keep us, high school students, and also primary school children, ignorant of our African history, or background, if you prefer.

White children of America know of their past not only to when they came to America, but even to when their ancestors, the Anglo Saxons, were in Germany, or if they are descended from some other European sub-race, they know equivalently enough. This applies not only to Americans; but to almost all the other peoples of the world excepting Jamaica.

Jamaicans also know this much along with more European history, and West Indian history to when we were brought from Africa, but practically nothing more of the history of the land of our predominant forefathers.

It still is not too late now to start doing African history even if it's only done in the high schools.

Let Mr. Allen know also, that banning the sale of the 'Black Men's Newspaper' in schools won't stop us from reading it or buying it elsewhere.

Keep on Blowing the Horn and Telling the People.

ST.MARY STUDENT

BLACK POWER

Politicians and social leaders in this country have been saying a lot recently about the lack of a sense of commitment to the Jamaican society. This, we are told is mainly the reason why young, underprivileged black Jamaicans for the most part want to tear down the structure of the economy. This they suggest is the reason why a Black Power Movement should be avoided like a plague in Jamaica.

I invite consideration of the proposition that a Black Power Movement sensitive to the needs of the Jamaican people can create, overtime, exactly this sense of committment.

The 20% white or near white who own so much of the wealth of the country are for the most part committed not to this society as a whole, but to making more money whoever gets squeezed in the process. If the present great situation for them is not maintained they will simply pack their grips and leave the country. To the preponderant black majority who are poor, a black philosophy which is not looking outward for some heaven in Africa or elsewhere to go, but aims at the restructuring of the economy and value system of the country, has constructive possibilities. This can give the black man a sense of "this is my country" paid for with over 300 years of blood, sweat, stripes on his back and tears. In a philosophy such as this, we may have the beginnings of a sense of committment to this society which blackmen will never have if the system is maintained in its present uncompromising form.

George Dixon
Kingston 11.

TRENCH TOWN

This is my twelfth year living in Trench Town and I have witnessed and seen the injustice that is being done to we the poorer class of Trench Town and our neighbours, Ghost and Jones Town by the upper class and the Government. Unemployment is so much in these areas that if a littlebushing work is being given out, there is always a fight. At school we are treated inferiors by a few stupid 'blacks' who live in upper St. Andrew.

There was this case on Thursday 2nd where a 'black guy' got up telling the class of a boy who had a fuss with him, that the boy was a Trench Town dirty boy who he had witnessed more than once going around in rags. This made the fellow very upset when the whole class began laughing, whereas this made a few other boys and myself very angry. This case of discrimination and others, are going on in one of our leading colleges situated on North Street in the corporate area.

In another incident from January last, while walking along White St. in Trench Town with six friends, we were stopped by policemen in a jeep and a car, told that we had destroyed a restaurant situated on Spanish Town Road, threatened to be beaten on arrival at the Denham Town Police Station, indecent language used at us and guns brandished at us; but to the disapproval of the police, when the two restaurant workers came and said it was not us, they told us to go in a sorrowful manner without even apologising for the trouble they had caused us. These two incidents reminds me of a verse in the Bible where it says that "For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled; and whoever humbles himself will be exalted." And this verse as I put it, is referring to the Government and a certain part of the public who are pressuring their own black brothers and sisters and most of these people attend church regularly.

SUFFERER D.N.
TRENCH TOWN

TIME WILL TELL

For a number of years now we have notice that the Government of Jamaica and the rulers of the Government of Jamaica, their only ambition is to frame more brutal laws and cruel penalties against the poor and innocent people in the island of Jamaica. They also claim that by doing these evils, crime will be brought to an end. Yet at the same time they sit upon a throne of wickedness from which they hand out exploitation, brutalities, false imprisonment and willful massacre by the police against poor people. It is a dirty disgrace to know the amount of innocent people who were sent to prison for male ganja plants. What is more grievous of all is to know that while they do hand out these unto the masses of the people they live in luxury, having more than their hearts can wish, sitting in the backseat of cars, smoking pipe, or cigar, having a servant to drive their car to where they wish.

These things must stop says Ali Baba and his brethern. The philosophies of truth and justice is powerful and cannot be conquered by guns or a bayonet. We shall not worry. We do not fear. We shall not doubt. Time will tell.

Ali Baba and his Brethren
Stony Gut.

POLITICAL ACADEMY LECTURE
NIGERIA (Past & Present)
Tonight, Friday, 9th May
at 8.00 P.M.
Dr. Dorathea Baxter-Grillo
Lecturer, University of Ibadan
at EXTRA MURAL CENTRE

R.J.R.'S BETRAYAL

(Continued from P. 1)

The case of Perkins is probably unique in history. In eighteen months he has been fired from no less than four programmes, each time for the same reason. The first came when he was doing "VIEWPOINT" for JBC, a Sunday morning commentary. He dared to attack both the Government and the Sugar Manufacturers' Association for the mess in sugar. While still at JBC, he interviewed Roy McNeil, Minister of Home Affairs, on "REPORTING '68" on McNeil's use of civilians as special police during the October crisis. He was thrown off the programme immediately. And now, two more blows in rapid succession at RJR.

With "ARGUMENT" long since shelved from the air, all that the Number One radio station can sport is a tame Peter Abrahams, and some historical notes by Frank Hill on "HISTORICALLY SPEAKING!"

There is a lesson to be learnt from all this sordid betrayal of the people. It illustrates the fact that freedom of speech and the people's right to be informed are decided as a matter of course between the Government and the capitalists. This is exactly the same way the Government and Opposition behave, as though democratic rights is a matter between them and for them alone.

More than ever, Black People in Jamaica can inform themselves only through their own efforts. ABENG, BLACK MAN SPEAKS, YOUTH MOVE (published by J.C. Sixth-formers) are only the beginning of the new phase.

TONIGHT

BLOWING THE HORN TO CALL YOU
all Brothers and Sisters
of the Soul World
"NITE OF NAKED SOUL"

Place: BOWENS PLACE (Guys Hill)
Date: 9th MAY, 1969
Time: 8:00 P'M. until anor
Admission: 3/-
Music by ASTOR'S SOUND
Refreshments on Sale

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